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THE SECOND TROOP PHILADELPHIA CITY
CAVALRY.

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Major, Medical Corps, U. S. Army; formerly First Lieutenant and
Surgeon of the Troop (April 1, 1898–November 10, 1903.)

[For References see pages 278–291.]

CAPTAINS OF THE OLD TROOP

1. Owen Faries, May, 1775—December 2, 1780
2. David Snyder, Dec. 2, 1780—April, 1786
3. Robert Hopkins, April, 1786—May 24, 1788
4. William Bingham, May 24, 1788—May 11, 1792
5. Major William Jackson, May 11, 1792—July 9, 1793
6. Abraham Singer, July 9, 1793—1802
7. Joseph Borden McKean, 1802—1803
8. Thomas Willing Francis, 1803—May 7, 1810
9. Thomas Cadwalader, May 7, 1810—Aug. 1, 1814
10. William Rawle, Jr., Aug. 1, 1814—1817
11. John Morris Scott, 1817—1819
12. Benjamin Say, 1819—July 10, 1822
13. Robert Milnor, July 10, 1822—1823
- Lieutenant Commandant George Heberton Van Gelder
1823—Nov. 1824
14. John Price Wetherill, Nov. 1824—Nov. 1838
15. Thomas Tustin, Sept. 14, 1844—April 2, 1846.
16. John Barington, April 2, 1846—Feb. 12, 1848
17. Charles H. Hunter, Feb. 14, 1848—August 20, 1850

CAPTAINS OF THE PRESENT TROOP

Lieut. Commandant Henry Douglas Hughes, Dec. 10,
1897.

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Frank A. Edwards, December 10, 1897—June 4, 1898.

Richard Tilghman, July 26, 1898—September 20, 1898.

Frank Earle Schermerhorn, October 14, 1898—October 22, 1908.

John Penman Wood, October 30, 1908—February 20, 1911.

Charles Welsh Edmunds, March 3, 1911—July 7, 1914.

John William Good, July 16, 1914—

John Burton Mustin, 1919—

CHAPTER I

THE ORIGIN OF THE SECOND TROOP.

The battle of Lexington was fought on April 19, 1775. Five days later, on April 24, news of that memorable event reached Philadelphia. At about five o'clock in the afternoon of that day, a courier, a special express from Trenton, dust-begrimed and travel-stained, galloped down the Frankford road and into the bounds of the city, stopping at each tavern on the way long enough only to shout his stirring news, then on to the city hall. The fight for national liberty was on, and the next morning, April 25, everyone in the city of Philadelphia knew it. The important Committee of Correspondence of the City and County of Philadelphia, whose authority was recognized and accepted by all, immediately convened and transacted what was, up to that time, the most important business that had come before it. A single brief resolution was passed:—"To associate together, to defend with arms their property, liberty, and lives against all attempts to deprive them of it." It was evident that the time for organization, arming, drilling and marching had come.

At once active enrollment began. In order to provide an armed force for the protection of the city it was agreed that "two troops of light horse, two companies of riflemen, and two companies of artillery, with brass and iron field-pieces" should be provided immediately.¹

There had already been organized, on November 17, 1774, a troop of light horse, under the captaincy of Abraham Markoe, which ultimately became the famous First City Troop of Philadelphia. Enrollment in the other organizations authorized by the Committee proceeded actively. On May 1, 1775, it was reported that "Two troops of light horse are now raising. Two companies of expert *Riflemen*, and two companies of Artillerymen are forming."² As early as May 10, 1775, some of the companies were ready to parade to receive Congress and offer an honorable escort to John Hancock. At that time "the foot company and the riflemen turned out to meet the southern delegates to Congress at Gray's Ferry."

April 25, 1775, must, therefore, be designated as the date of origin of the Second Troop of Light Horse, which in due course of time became known as the *Second Troop of Philadelphia Light Horse*, and ultimately as the *Second City Troop*. So energetically³ was the drilling persisted in that as early as June, 1775, "the three battalions, mustering 1500 men, with the artillery company of 150 men and 6 guns (two 12 pounders and four brass 6 pounders), the troop of light horse [First City Troop], and several companies of light infantry, rangers,⁴ and riflemen,⁵ in the whole about 2000 men, marched to the commons" and publicly drilled. It was not until sometime later that the Second Troop of Light Horse had acquired sufficient proficiency in the manipulation of their horses and accoutrements to appear in public.

For some time the two troops were indiscriminately known as Philadelphia Light Horse or Philadel-

phia Light Dragoons, but ultimately they were distinguished as the First and Second Troops, or were frequently indicated by the names of their commanding officers. The historical records prove that even antedating the Revolutionary period there was in Philadelphia a body of horse known as "Light Dragoons," which in all probability, was a survival of the "*Independent Troop of Horse of Philadelphia City*," which was organized in 1756, and which served creditably in the French and Indian War. It is interesting to note on the muster-rolls of the Light Dragoons of later date many of the names of the members of the *Independent Troop*.

But little is known of the doings of the Second Troop of Light Horse, which was authorized on April 25, 1775, during the first year of its existence. It is recorded that in the last week of May, 1776, General Washington, the members of Congress, and Generals Gates and Thomas Mifflin received the four battalions, the Rifle battalion, the Light Horse and three artillery companies of the city militia, amounting to near 2500 men. In 1777, there is on file the first complete roster of the Second Troop, which was designated the County Troop, in order to distinguish it from the First, or City, Troop. This is a muster of the "Light Dragoons for the County of Philadelphia, with the Battalion they belong to annexed to their names, including part of the city." It is as follows:—⁶

Captain, Owen Faries, 7.

Lieutenant, David Snyder.

Cornett, Casper Dull.

Dragoons.

⁷ Griffith Jones, 7.

⁸ Simon Bennett, 2.

⁹ George Haas, 7.

¹⁰ William Peast [Priest],

2.

¹¹ Jacob Benner, 7.

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|--|---|
| ¹² Samuel Neswanger, 2. | ²⁶ Josiah Pawling, 3. |
| Charles Porter, 6. | ²⁷ Nathan [Nathaniel] Vansandt, 2. |
| ¹³ Jacob Gross, 6. | Baker Barns, 1. |
| Paul Cooklis [Corlies?], 6. | ²⁸ Jacob Funk, City. |
| Jacob Hopple, 2. | ²⁹ Benjamin Watton [Wotten], 2. |
| ¹⁴ Andrew Keen, 2. | ³⁰ Josiah Matlock [Matlack], 2. |
| ¹⁵ Jonathan Leech, 2. | ³¹ David Davis. |
| ¹⁶ Henry Miller, 6. | Robert Hopkins, City. |
| ¹⁷ John Trocksell [Troxsell], 1. | ³² Isaac Keen, 2. |
| ¹⁸ Christian Steer, 6. | ³³ Edward Duffield. |
| ¹⁹ Isaac Humphreys [Humphrey], 1. | ³⁴ Thomas Chapple [Chappel], 2. |
| ²⁰ Thomas Vanderslice, 6. | Abraham Duffield, 2. |
| ²¹ Robert Gregg, 1. | ³⁵ George Benner, City. |
| ²² John Nice, 4. | ³⁶ John Brewner [Bruner]. |
| ²³ John Humphreys [Humphrey], 1. | ³⁷ Samuel Boucher [Butcher], 2. |
| ²⁴ Jacob Markley, 4. | Nathaniel Bellew. |
| ²⁵ Jacob Wollery [Woolery], 1. | John Braden. |
- “WM. COATS, Lieut. Philadelphia County.”

It is interesting to note that even at this early date in the list of privates of the Troop appear many names that ultimately became famous in Philadelphia annals, such as Hopkins, Duffield, Keen, Humphreys, Davis, Jones, Leech and Matlack.

The Militia Law of the Commonwealth, enacted by the General Assembly the 17th day of March, 1777, under which the Troop had been included in the organized militia of the city and county of Philadelphia, had become inefficient and no longer answered the desired purpose. A new law had become necessary, and an excellent conception of the composition of a troop of horse of this period may be entertained from the fol-

lowing extracts, bearing upon the cavalry, taken from the law enacted March 20, 1780 entitled “An Act for the Regulation of the Militia of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:”—³⁸

“Sect. 8. And whereas it is expedient to embody such a number of light horse as will be useful when the militia is called into actual service; therefore,

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That each of the lieutenants of the several counties of this state may form a corps of light horse, not to exceed six privates for each battalion of infantry in each county, to be taken distributively out of each, in case volunteers offer; otherwise at large, throughout the county; and the light horse shall be officered as light horse usually are, and shall be subject to appear upon muster days, and shall turn out in classes as other militia;

“Sect. 9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Troop of light horse in the city of Philadelphia shall be limited to the number of fifty, exclusive of officers; the vacancies thereof to be filled in the manner heretofore practiced; and the said troop shall be liable to appear on muster days, and to be called out into service as other militia; and the light horse of this state when in actual service shall be subject to the same rules and regulations as the foot militia, and to like fines and penalties for neglect of meeting on muster days or turning out on their tour when thereunto called; such fines and penalties to be appropriated as the fines and penalties for like offenses in other cases.”

The two City Troops of Light Horse shared in the honor of participating in the first celebration of the Fourth of July, of which the following interesting account is preserved³⁹:—“Last Friday the 4th of July, [1777], being the anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America, was celebrated in this

city with demonstrations of joy and festivity. About noon all armed ships and gallies in the river were drawn up before the city, dressed in the gayest manner, with the colours of the United States and streamers displayed. At one o'clock, the yards being properly manned, they began the celebration of the day by a discharge of thirteen cannon from each of the ships, and one from each of the thirteen gallies, in honor of the Thirteen United States. In the afternoon an elegant dinner was prepared for Congress, to which were invited the President and Supreme Executive Council, and Speaker of the Assembly of this State, the General Officers and Colonels of the army, and strangers of eminence, and the Members of the several Continental Boards in town. The Hessian band of music, taken in Trenton the 26th of December last, attended and heightened the festivity with some fine performances suited to the joyous occasion, while a corps of British deserters, taken into the service of the continent by the State of Georgia, being drawn up before the door, filled up the intervals with *feux de joie*. After dinner a number of toasts were drank all breathing independence and a generous love of liberty, and commemorating the memories of those brave and worthy patriots who gallantly exposed their lives, and fell gloriously in defence of freedom and the righteous cause of their country. Each toast was followed by a discharge of artillery and small arms, and a suitable piece of music by the Hessian band. The glorious fourth of July was reiterated three times, accompanied with triple discharges of cannon and small arms, and loud huzzas that resounded from street to street through the city. Towards evening several troops of horse, a corps of artillery, and a brigade of North Carolina forces, which was in town on its way to join the grand army, were drawn up in Second street, and reviewed by Congress and the General Officers. The

evening was closed with the ringing of bells, and at night there was a grand exhibition of fire works (which began and concluded with thirteen rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated. Everything was conducted with the greatest order and decorum, and the face of joy and gladness was universal. Thus may be the fourth of July, that glorious and ever memorable day, be celebrated through America, by the sons of freedom, from age to age till time shall be no more. Amen and Amen."

The intense interest exhibited by Captain Faries in the welfare of his Troop is shown by the following letter which is characteristic of the time:—⁴⁰

"To His Excellency Joseph Reed Esq^r President
of the Supreme Executive Council of the Com-
monwealth of Pennsylvania.

"Esteemed Sir,

"Necessity absolute necessity, compels me to apply in Behalf of the Troop raised in Philad^a County, for a few Horsemen Swords, as they cannot properly Equip themselves under two months, knowing that it is a Desire near to your Heart that they Should be properly trained, it Imboldened me to make this application.

"Suffer me to assure your Excellency that we shall be ready at your call, & allways happy to have you at the head of us.

"Should the favour be granted us of 30 Swords, I will be accountable for them, & return them Whenever I am ordered.

& I am Sir, with Esteem

Your most obe^t servt.

"German Town, 5th May, 1780."

"Owen Ferris"

What actual service the Troop saw during the earlier Revolutionary times is not known. It is probable that for a time, at least, it constituted a portion of the

Home Guard, and as such it is known to have participated on Tuesday, May 23d, 1780, in a review of the militia of the city and adjoining districts by President Reed of the State.⁴¹ Upon this occasion, "The Artillery, Infantry and Light Horse, together amounted to Two Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty. The whole made a very handsome appearance, and gave the highest satisfaction to the friends of Liberty and the Independence of America. Major-General St. Clair, Major-General Wayne, and other Gentlemen of the army were present: And the citizens under arms were peculiarly gratified with the presence of his Excellency the Chevalier de la Luzerne, Minister of France, who has on all occasions shewn the closest attention to the interest and honor of America, and on the present occasion expressed great pleasure at the martial appearance of the militia."

President Reed was so pleased at the showing of the military that he issued the following notice:—⁴²

"The President of the State with pleasure embraces the first public opportunity to thank the Gentlemen of the TROOPS OF LIGHT HORSE, of ARTILLERY and INFANTRY MILITIA, for their numerous and military appearance last Tuesday—so respectable a body of Citizens armed in defence of AMERICAN LIBERTY, after five years *cruel war* waged against it, must afford true delight to every lover of his country, and strike our enemies, both internal and external, with despair. The spirit and attention shown by the officers in so short a time since their appointment, is a most happy omen of their future improvement and success, and we may justly flatter ourselves, that their example will diffuse its influence through the whole State, combining the three great qualities which constitute the Patriot Soldier, Courage, Discipline, and an Ardent Love of his Country.

CHAPTER II.

IN ACTIVE SERVICE IN THE REVOLUTION.

Shortly after this review, on June 17, 1780, there appeared another roster of the Troop.⁴³ The officers at this time were:—

Captain, Owen Faries.

First Lieutenant, John Dover.⁴⁴

Second Lieutenant, David Snyder.

Cornet, Casper Dull.

The advance of the British forces toward Philadelphia brought to the Troop its first tour of duty. Late in June, 1780, it was placed on waiting orders, as the following letter indicates:—⁴⁵

“To the Hon’ble, the Supreme Executive Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

“Gentlemen,

Agreeable to the Resolve of Council of 15th June last, the Lieutenant of the County of Philadelphia begs leave to report that in consequence of the orders contained in said Resolve, the Gentlemen composing the Troop of Light Dragoons, belonging to said County, are duly noticed to hold themselves in readiness to March at a short Notice, and Agreeable to Notice given the Troop, Assembled together at Flower Town in said County, on Monday, the 25th of June [1780], when the Lieutenant had the Satisfaction to find the Troop in General well mounted and Equipt.

“I have the Honor to remain the Councils

Most Obed^t Humble Servt.

“WM. COATS, Lieut. C. P.”

“Philada., July 5, 1780.”

Immediately after this the Troop was ordered into active service, with the other Philadelphia troops, to



SILHOUETTE OF COLONEL JOHN DOVER
in the possession of his granddaughter,
A. M. Stewart, of Philadelphia

take part in the New Jersey campaign which centered in and around Trenton.⁴⁶ During this tour of duty, under its efficient captain, Owen Faries, it was called upon to perform numerous and arduous tasks which were all cheerfully and ably carried out, and that without any compensation, at the time, from the Government. For we learn that throughout this entire period the Troop was compelled to rely for sustenance solely upon its own financial resources, supplemented by the generous liberality of its officers. At a subsequent date an effort was made to secure from the State a remuneration for the funds thus consumed, and there is extant a petition having this object in view, addressed to the Governor of Pennsylvania, couched in the quaint phraseology of the time and characterized by the usual magnificently reckless disregard of the laws of orthography, punctuation and capitalization:—⁴⁷

“June ye 26th, 1781.

“To his Excellency the President & the Honourable Council of the State of Pennsylvania.

“The Philadelphia County Light Horse being sensible of the Respect and Attention that always should be paid to our President, present their Compliments and request that the Expences & Cost that occur'd last year when called to the City of Philadelphia and from thence to Trenton; should be taken into Consideration and that the County Lieutenants should have orders to adjust and pay them of, flattering ourselves with the Hopes of that we marched with cheerfulness and performed with Diligence Every order that was Issued, we have not the least doubt but you are Conscious of the Extravagant prices we paid whilst we lay in the City and of the sums we laid out whilst in the Jersey, as none of the Inhabitants would take no Certificates when we ware sent on Command we beg leave to assure you that there are several more Ex-

penses which we dont charge (tho' paid,) and Cannot at present obtain receipts for. Now that we are called to hold ourselves in readiness at a moments warning we mean to obey with spirit and wish only for our President to Command us.

“Col. Coats has assured us that he lay before your Honorable Body our receipts for the sums we laid out which we requested should be Liquidated.

“Signed in Behalf of the Troop.

“David Snyder, Capten.
Abraham Duffield, Lt.
Casper Dull, Cont.”

“Directed,

To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq^r., President of Pennsylvania.”

This petition elicited the following response:—⁴⁸

“Col. Wm. Coats, Lt. of P^a C^y,

“Sir,

Having received an Account of the Expences of the Philad. Light Horse during the late Tour, I embraced the first opp^y to lay the same before the Council, who are disposed to make every reasonable Gratification. As it is the first Time we have had an Application of this Nature & the Account only contains Names & Sums it has been concluded to refer the Account to yourself, Col. [George] Smith, & Col. [William] Dean⁴⁹ to liquidate, & after examining the vouchers to report to this Board what Sum will be just and reasonable, having on the one Hand due Regard to the Men & on the other to the publick Interest, in which you will consider that what is now done will on future Occasions be a Precedent, not only to this Troop, but to all others within the State. . . .

“I am, Sir, with due Esteem

Your Obed. Hbbl. Serv.

“1781, July 12th.”

“Joseph Reed.”

The result of the investigation was as follows:—⁵⁰

“To His Excellency, Joseph Reed, Esq^r., President
of the State of Pennsylvania.

“Sir,

Agreable to your order from Council dated July 12th, we have call'd on the Gentlemen of the Troop of Light Horse of the County of Philad^a, to produce to us their accounts and Vouchers of their Expenditures when out on the last tour of Duty, and agreable to Notiss given we had a full meeting, when it appear'd that part of the Troop that had done equal duty with the others, had kept no account and had no Vouchers to produce, not expecting to receive any compensation, sixteen of the Troop produced Vouchers, from which we where under the Necessity of Averaging a price to be allowed to each man when on Command by detachment and where no Provision had been maid for their support, and after mature Consideration have agreed that each Person be allowed for two meals & a day, one gill of Rum, twelve quarts of Oats and Hay at night for his Horse, the sum of Six Shillings specie the account of the number of Days that each person searv'd with the amount of what appears to us should be paid him accompanys this, which we beg leave to lay before Council, we have the Honour to remain your Excellencies and the Councils most Obedient Humble Servants,

“WM. COATS, Lieutenant, C.P.

GEORGE SMITH, Sub. Lieut. C.P.

WM. DEAN, Sub. Lieut. C.P.

“Philad^a County Abington, August 18th, 1781.”

One week after the receipt of this letter the minutes of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania show the following entry under the date of August 24, 1781:—“An order was drawn on the Treasurer in favor of Captain Snyder, of the Philadelphia County Troop of Light Horse, for the sum of fifty-two pounds

fourteen shillings and six pence, State money, of the seventh of April, 1781, amount of an account of the expenses of the said troop while on command on a late call of militia.”⁵¹

The active interest taken by Captain Faries in the cause of the Colonists up to the time of his retirement from the Troop is shown by the following letter written at this time, probably to the Commander of the American forces in the vicinity during the British occupation of Philadelphia:—⁵²

“Sir,—The Bearer Mr. Rudy goes With four Deserters which we took up back of Germantown in the Woods concealed. Major Bensell was along with me but we gave up any Claim to the Reward & hope you will pay the four Militiamen who go along four half Joes⁵³ or the Exchange as it Will be a further Incouragement to the people.

I am Your Most Obedt. Servt.

“Germantown, 7 Oct, 1780.” “Owen Ferris.”

About a month after the return of the Troop to Philadelphia from the New Jersey campaign Captain Faries was compelled to relinquish his command on account of his removal from his home in Germantown to Philadelphia. His resignation was announced on November 20, 1780, and an election for his successor was held on the morning of December 2d, according to the following public notices:—

“PUBLIC NOTICE⁵⁴ is hereby given to the Gentlemen of the Troop of LIGHT DRAGOONS, of the County of Philadelphia, That it is expected they will meet the Lieutenant of the County on Monday, the 20th instant, at the House of Capt. [Robert] Greggs, late Wright’s Tavern, precisely at Eleven o’Clock in the Morning, on Business of Importance.

“WILLIAM COATS,⁵⁵ Lieut. C.P.”

“*Philadelphia County*, Nov. 14, 1780.”

“PUBLIC NOTICE⁵⁶ is hereby given to the Gentlemen of the TROOP of LIGHT HORSE of the County of Philadelphia, that on Saturday the 2^d of December next, at Eleven O’Clock in the Morning, at the House of Captain [Robert] Greys, late Wright’s Tavern, An ELECTION will be held for the Choice of a CAPTAIN to command the said Troop, the late Captain having resigned. The Gentlemen are desired to be punctual in their Attendance, and are further Notified (by the unanimous Vote of the Troop at their last Meeting) that no Gentlemen will be allowed a Vote, unless he appears properly uniformed and equipped.

“WM. COATS, Lieut. P.C.”

“*Philadelphia County*, November 23, 1780”

David Snyder, the former Second Lieutenant of the Troop, attained the captaincy at this time, while Abraham Duffield was elected to the Lieutenancy.⁵⁷

At this period in the history of the Troop as a military organization there seems to have been in vogue a system of rotation in office which was abolished at a subsequent date. For we find, in 1777, a roster naming Owen Faries (or Farris—the orthography varies) as captain. Three years later, in 1780, Faries is still captain, John Dover holds the first lieutenancy, and David Snyder the second lieutenancy. Toward the close of the same year—1780—Snyder advances to the captaincy, while Faries heads the list of privates, who are designated in the official report as “dragoons.” This may have been by special arrangement, however, Faries having been satisfied with the honor of holding the command of the Troop, and, not willing to sever completely his connection with the organization, voluntarily relinquishing the obligations and burdens which necessarily devolves upon the commanding officer, and resuming his place in the rank and file. As far as we know, there are but two other instances of such an

occurrence in the history of the Troop, namely, in the cases of Captain William Rawle, Jr., and Captain Benjamin Say, whose names are included in the rosters of the Troop subsequent to their tenure of office.

The Troop remained at home for a year after the New Jersey campaign. In April, 1781, the following notice appeared:⁵⁸

“PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, To the GENTLEMEN of the TROOP OF LIGHT HORSE for the county of Philadelphia, that MONDAY, the 21st of May, is appointed for the Troop to meet, at the House of Captain [Robert] GREGS [*sic*], in said County, at Ten o'clock in the morning. It is expected that every Gentleman of the Troop will appear properly Equipt and Accoutred, etc.

“WILLIAM COATS, Lieutenant Philadelphia County.”
“April 25, [1781].”

On August 30, 1781, the Troop participated in an escort to General Washington and other distinguished officers who were about to leave the city for the campaign in the South.⁵⁹ Immediately following the departure of the American army on September 21st, “it was feared that the unprotected state of the country might tempt the British to make a descent upon Philadelphia from New York.” The Pennsylvania militia were, accordingly, ordered to hold themselves in readiness for instant service, as the petition, already quoted, states. A portion of the city and county troops, including the light horse, together with commands from other portions of the State, were ordered to rendezvous at Newtown, Bucks County, and a lookout was also established at Cape May.

John Humphreys was the Quartermaster of the Troop at this time, and there is on record a series of Quartermaster's Reports, signed by him, for rations furnished “Captain David Snyder's Troop of Light Dragoons of Philadelphia County.”⁶⁰ From these reports, which are here reproduced in full, we learn that

on September 27, 1781, the Troop mustered one captain, one lieutenant, and twenty men in the rank and file. Four days later, on October 1, the roll showed one captain, one lieutenant and thirty-four men in the rank and file. On October 5, it included one captain, one lieutenant, one quartermaster, and thirty-three men in the rank and file; while on October 8, there are noted one captain, one lieutenant, one cornet, one quartermaster, and thirty-four men in the rank and file—a most curious condition of ebullition on troop affairs.

The Quartermaster's Reports for the Newtown campaign are as follows:—

“Provision Return for Capt. David Snyder's M. L.
Dragoons, Philada. County

Newtown September 27th, 1781.

“David Snyder, Captain.

Capt.	Lt.	Rank & file.	Rations.	Days.	Total.
1	1	20	22	2	44

“Recd. the above.

John Humphrey, Qr. M.”

“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyder M. L.
Dragoons

“Nutown September 29th, 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Rank & file.	for two days.	
1	1	20	24	48

David Snyder, Captain

“Recd. forty Eight Rations.

John Humphrey, Q. M.”

“Provision Return for Capt. David Snyder T. L.
Dragoons.

Newtown October 1th 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Rank & file.	for two days.	
1	1	34	38	76

“David Snyder, Captain.

“Received Seventy Six Rations.

John Humphrey.”

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“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyders M. L.
Dragoons.

Newtown Oct. 3th 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Rank & file.	for two days.	
1	1	34	38	76

“Abrm. Duffield, Lieut.”

“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyders M. L.
Dragoons.

“Newtown Oct. 5th, 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Qr. M.	Rank & file.	For days.	ee days Rations.
1	1	1	33	38	114

“Sr. please Issue two Days Rum for the above men.

“By Order of J. Hanna, A. D. C.

“Colo. Crispin.

“David Snyder, Captain.

“Received one hundred and fourteen Rations for
three days provisions and two days Rum.

“John Humphrey.”

“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyder Light
Dragoon Philad’a County Militia.

“Newtown Octo’r 8th, 1781.

Captain.	Lt.	Cornet.	Qr. M.	Rank & file.	for two days.
1	1	1	1	34	78

“David Snyder, Captain.

“Received seventy Eight Rations

“David Davis.”

“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyder M. L.
Dragoons.

“Oct. 14th, 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Cornet.	Qr. M.	Rank & file.		
1	1	1	1	31	38	76 for two days.

David Snyder, Capt.

“Received Seventy Six Rations.

“John Humphrey, Q. M.”

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“Provision Return of Capt. David Snyder’s M. L. Dragoons.

“Newtown Oct. 16th, 1781.

Capt.	Lt.	Cornet.	Qr. M.	Rank & file.	
1	1	1	1	31	38 for one day.

“David Snyder, Captain.

“Rec’d thirty Eight Rations.

“John Humphrey, Q. M.”

“This is to Certify that Samuel Butcher hat a four Horse waggan to Haul the Baggage for the Troops of Light Dragoons Philad’a County Militia in Employ-ment for Twenty Two Days.

“Newtown October 16th, 1781.

“David Snyder, Capt.”

“To Col. [William] Dean, S. L. C. P.”

The camp at Newtown was struck on October 20th, the troops returning to Philadelphia. The surrender of Lord Cornwallis on October 19th virtually ended the war, although the treaty of peace was not signed at Paris until 1783. With the cessation of camp duty the Troop resumed the usual routine of a militia organiza-tion. On Saturday, November 3^d, 1781, an interesting event occurred. On that day twenty-four stands of British colors, taken at Yorktown, reached Phila-delphia and were escorted into town by the local volun-teer cavalry including the city and county troops. The trophies were carried down High [Market] street, preceded by the French and American colors and taken to the State House,⁶¹ where they were presented to Con-gress, then in session, and “laid at their feet.”⁶²

The usual spring and fall days of exercise, as ap-pointed by the militia law, were carefully observed by the Troop, as is indicated by the following public notices:⁶³—

“Philadelphia county, April 3, 1782. NOTICE is hereby given to the TROOP OF LIGHT HORSE that they are

to meet Colonel [Robert] Correy's⁶⁴ battalion, on MONDAY the 27th of May; the place of rendezvous will be at the late dwelling of Colonel Archibald Thomson⁶⁵ [*sic*], deceased, in Norrington [Norriton] Township:⁶⁶ It is expected the troop will attend at eleven o'clock in the morning, properly equipt and accoutered [*sic*]. The fines for non-attendance are as follows: that if any commissioned officer shall neglect or refuse to attend on any of the days appointed for exercise in companies as aforesaid (unless prevented by sickness or some other unavoidable accident,) such commissioned officer shall forfeit and pay the price of three days labour: and any non-commissioned officer or private, and all enrolled persons, so refusing or neglecting (except as before excepted) shall forfeit and pay the price of one and a half day's labour; and on a battalion day, a field officer shall forfeit and pay the price of six days labour, and a commissioned officer under that rank the price of four days labour, and a non-commissioned officer or private, and all enrolled persons, refusing to meet and exercise, the price of two days labour, (excepting as before excepted).

“WILLIAM COATS, lieutenant of Phila. county.”

“THE TROOP OF LIGHT HORSE are notified⁶⁷ to meet TUESDAY, the 26th of November [1782], at 10 o'clock in the morning, at Chestnut-hill, the place of ‘rendezvous’ of the 7th or Germantown battalion [Colonel Matthew Holgate]: They will be careful to appear properly equipped and accoutred.

“W. COATS, Lt. C. P.”

On May 13 of this year [1782] the French minister, Luzerne,⁶⁸ formally announced to Congress the birth of the Dauphin of France. On this occasion he was escorted to the State House by the City Light Horse [First City Troop], and was there received by the Continental troops, as well as by the County Troops, and the City Artillery.⁶⁹

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Lying, as it did, on the outskirts of the city, the County Troop was compelled to cover much territory in its troop drills and exercises. Germantown, Chestnut Hill, Frankford, Oxford township, Bustleton and other boroughs were the scene of its manœuver, as the following, and other, notices indicate:—

“The TROOP OF LIGHT HORSE of the county of Philadelphia, will please to take notice, that they are to meet, properly equipt and accoutred, on MONDAY the 16th of June next, at 10 o’clock in the morning, at the house of Captain Eckart, at Whitemarsh.

“WM. COATS, Lieutenant P. C.”⁷⁰

“Philadelphia County, May 31, 1783.”

“PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the TROOP OF LIGHT HORSE of the County of Philadelphia to meet on the 20th of Oct., [1783], at Busseltoun [*sic*] to join the First Battalion, commanded by Col. Benjamin M’Veagh.”⁷¹

“WM. COATS, Lieut. of the County of Philadelphia.”⁷²

“The TROOP OF HORSE will meet the Second Battalion, commanded by Colonel [Matthew] Holgate,⁷³ the 4th of May, at Germantown.

“WILLIAM COATS,

Lieutenant of the County of Philadelphia.”⁷⁴

“April 17, 1784.”

“The TROOP OF HORSE will take notice to meet the fifth battalion, commanded by Col. [Matthew] Jones, on FRIDAY the 22^d of October [1784], at the place of rendezvous, near the Merion Meeting House, on Lancaster Road.

“WILLIAM COATS,

Lieutenant of the County of Philadelphia.”⁷⁵

With the single exception of the voluntary retirement of the Cornet, Casper Dull, no changes are noted in the list of officers of the Troop for some time. Thus, we find, in 1784, “A Return of the Officers of the Troop

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of Light Horse of the County of Philadelphia," as follows:—⁷⁶

“David Snyder, Captain.

Abraham Duffield, Lieutenant.

Isaac Humphries [Humphreys], Cornet.

“Philada County, March 9th, 1784.

“WM. COATS, Lieut. C. P.”

“Directed,

John Armstrong, Esq. Secretary.”

REFERENCES.

¹ *Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, pp. 295–6.

² *Pennsylvania Packet*, May 1, 1775.

³ *Pennsylvania Packet*, June 6 and 12, 1775.

⁴ The *rangers* were “regular or irregular troops or other armed men, employed in ranging over a region either for its protection or as marauders.” Military rangers are generally mounted, but may fight on foot if occasion requires.—*Century Dictionary*.

⁵ *Riflemen*, formerly, were men armed with the rifle, when most of infantry carried muskets.

⁶ *Pennsylvania Archives*, Second Series, vol. xiii, p. 593; also, Sixth Series, vol. i, p. 979.

⁷ *Griffith Jones* was married on October 31, 1760, to *Janet Barr*; and, in Zion Lutheran Church, on December 9, 1774, to *Rebecca Morgan*. On July 24, 1776, he was gunner in the First Company of the Artillery Regiment. In December, 1776, he was a member of Captain Joseph Cowperthwaite’s company of the *First Philadelphia Battalion of Militia*. On March 3, 1777, he was appointed by the Navy Board to command the Fire Ship “*Strumbello*.” On September 12, 1777, he was appointed Sergeant in the 5th Co., of the Artillery Regiment. He is recorded, in 1777, as a member of Captain Faries *Troop of Horse*. He was a wealthy tanner, residing in Germantown. That he was a man of considerable means is proved by his advertisement in October, 1780, offering “a reward of \$4000 for information of persons who have been damaging his property.” (*Pennsylvania Packet*, October 28, 1780.) He owned extensive lots on the east side of Front Street between Sassafras [Race] and Vine Streets (*Pennsylvania Packet*, June 19, 1783). In 1791, he is recorded at No. 259 South Third Street, as a house carpenter [builder].

⁸ *Simon Bennett*, probably the son of *Abraham Bennett* and *Mary Harrison*, who were married in March, 1749; on August 13, 1777, was appointed a member of the Committee for Lower Dublin township to

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drive off the cattle on the approach of the British. On July 3, 1792, he was elected Captain of the County Troop of Horse. His son, *Samuel Bennett*, merchant, of Philadelphia, was married on November 23, 1796, to *Ruth Dobel*, of Bristol. A *John Bennett*, in 1794, was a private in the 3d Company, 4th Regiment Phila. City Militia, Col. Andrew Guyer.

⁹ *George Haas*, of the Northern Liberties, was married in Zion Lutheran Church, on April 5, 1768, to *Margaret Hagin*. He died on December 1, 1811, leaving an estate of \$4000, for which letters of administration were granted to *Zachariah Bowman*. His grandson, *George Haas*, (born in 1823), died on October 24, 1849, at his home, Meeting House Lane, Germantown, in his 27th year.

¹⁰ *William Priest* [probably the correct spelling], died on February 20, 1791, intestate, and letters of administration were granted to *Mary Lodge*. A *William H. Priest* was living in Philadelphia in 1844.

¹¹ *Jacob Benner, Sr.*, in 1786, lived in New Street near Third, and, in May, 1786, he and his son, *Jacob Benner, Jr.*, mariner, were executors for *George Benner*, brother of *Jacob Benner, Sr.* In 1788, *Jacob Benner, Sr.*, lived in Bustleton, in the township of Lower Dublin. In 1791, he is recorded as a brickmaker at No. 72 Elm Street. He died on September 22, 1793, leaving a son, *Jacob Benner, Jr.* In 1785, a private in the Sixth Company, 4th Battalion, Col. William Wills; married, on July 4, 1790, in Zion Lutheran Church, to *Margaretta Bartils*, and three daughters—*Margaret*, *Elizabeth*, and *Sophia*—one of whom was married to *Peter Rees*. His widow *Mary Benner*, died in 1828. A *Sarah Benner*, widow of *Jacob Benner*, was born in 1760, and died at her residence, Spruce Street above Thirteenth, on June 2, 1840, in her 80th year.

¹² *Samuel Neswanger (Neaswinger)*, of Lower Dublin township, Philadelphia County, was one of a Committee appointed, on July 12, 1777, for Oxford, Lower Dublin, Moreland and Byberry townships, to drive off the live stock as soon as the British should appear. He owned a water gristmill in Lower Dublin. His will was made in 1798; and he died in 1805, leaving a son, *Samuel Neswanger, Jr.*, (died June 6, 1824), who was always an invalid; a daughter, *Ann* (wife of *George Sommers*), and a daughter, *Elizabeth* (wife of *Enoch Addis*).

¹³ *Jacob Gross* died about June 20, 1809, letters of administration being granted to *Dorothy Gross*, and security being given by *George Gross*, *Jacob Gross* and *John Gross*, cordwainers.

¹⁴ *Andrew Keen*, son of *Daniel Keen* (born in Oxford township, Philadelphia County, in 1722-23) and *Elizabeth McCarty* (married January 6, 1751-2), was born, in Philadelphia, August 6, 1752, and baptized at Trinity Church in February, 1753. From July 14, 1776, to February, 1777, he was a private in Captain Rudolph's Neff's company of Colonel Robert Lewis J. Deane's Regiment of Foot.. In September, 1777, he joined the cavalry, in Captain James Craig's troop, and then the Troop of Horse commanded by Captain Fearis [Faries], in which organization he remained until the middle of July, 1778. He was subsequently called out twice, serving several weeks each time. On April 8, 1777,

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he was married, in Old Swedes' Church, to *Margaret Toy* (born January 22, 1756; died in Philadelphia, March 6, 1839, aged 83 years), daughter of *Elias and Barbara Toy*, her father being a descendant of *Elias Toy*, a Swede of New Jersey, who was born in October, 1664, and his wife, *Gertrude Nelson* (born in 1671; married in February, 1690). A personal communication from Andrew Keen's great-granddaughter, *Mrs. B. S. Banks*, of Philadelphia, states that "he fought in the battles of Monmouth, Trenton, Assanpink Creek, and Princeton, and in the skirmish near Holmesburg. He served with the rank of Major on the staff of General Washington, and was present at the crossing of the Delaware. He also witnessed the execution of Major Andre." He died, in Philadelphia, on August 3, 1838, aged 87 years.—*Gregory B. Keen*, "The Descendants of Jören Kyn, the Founder of Upland."

¹⁵ *Jonathan Leech*, yeoman, of Lower Dublin township, Philadelphia County, died in May, 1825. He was unmarried, and left his estate to his sisters, *Hannah*, wife of *Malachi Fisher*, and *Rebecca*, wife of *George Yerkes*. His will was made on February 28, 1811.

¹⁶ *Henry Miller*, baker and shopkeeper of the city and county of Philadelphia, died shortly after October 26, 1802 (the date of his will), leaving his estate to his wife, *Mary Miller* (late *Steelman*). On April 15, 1786, he was commissioned First Lieutenant in Capt. Christian Shaffer's Fourth Company, Fourth Battalion, Col. John Shee. His brother was *Christian Miller*.

¹⁷ *John Trocksell*, [*Troxel* or *Troxsell*], in 1777, was Second Lieutenant in the First Company, Fourth Battalion, Philadelphia County Associates. On October 1, 1778, he was a private in the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment.

¹⁸ *Christian Steer* was naturalized in Upper Milford, Bucks County Pa., on September 18, 1763.

¹⁹ *Isaac Humphreys* and *John Humphreys* were probably sons of *Jonathan Humphreys* and *Sarah Doughty*, and brothers of *Jacob Humphreys* (born in Bucks County, Pa., in 1751; married at the Haverford Meeting house, on July 13, 1773, to *Sarah James*; Captain in the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment on February 15, 1777; claiming rank from September 8, 1776; engaged in the battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown and Yorktown, serving in the Southern campaign; transferred, on January 1, 1783, to the First Pennsylvania Regiment, and serving to June 3, 1783; resided subsequently in West Fallowfield, Chester County, Pa.; elected to the Legislature in 1814-15; in July 1825, one of the County Commissioners to receive General Lafayette; died January 21, 1826, aged 75 years) and *Whitehead Humphreys* (born March 20, 1733-34; died September 3, 1786). steelmaker and distiller; and grandsons of *Daniel Humphreys* and *Hannah Wynne*. *Isaac Humphreys* was born in Bucks County, Pa., and was married in old Swedes' Church, on January 18, 1780, to Jane Brown. In 1781, he was appointed Collector of Taxes for Upper Dublin Township.

²⁰ *Thomas Vanderslice's* son, *Henry Vanderslice*, was married, in St. Michael's and Zion Church, on November 28, 1798, to *Else Price* (*Alice Preish*), widow.

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²¹ *Robert Gregg* married *Jennett O'Neal* on September 25, 1765. In October, 1775, he was Second Lieutenant in Wayne's Fourth Battalion. On January 8, 1776, he was again commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Fourth Pennsylvania Battalion; and, on January 1, 1777, attained the rank of First Lieutenant. On June 7, 1777, he was commissioned Captain in the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, retiring on July 1, 1778. He became the proprietor of an inn in the County of Philadelphia in 1780, which was formerly known as *Wright's Tavern*. (It was at this Tavern that David Snyder, in 1780, was elected to the command of the Second City Troop.) On June 17, 1790, he is recorded as living in Upper Makefield Township, Bucks County, four miles from Newtown (*Pennsylvania Packet*, June 17, 1790).

²² *John Nice* [*de Neus*], son of *John Nice* (died in March, 1794; his will was made on March 12, 1793), who, on October 30, 1767, married his second wife *Margaret Coffin*; was born in Germantown, January 29, 1739, and died there on July 5 (September 26), 1806, aged 67 years. In May, 1760, he was commissioned an Ensign in the 7th Co., of the Pennsylvania Regiment by Governor (Colonel) John Penn; and in September, 1763, Governor James Hamilton commissioned him a Captain in the colonial service. In 1772, he married *Sarah*, daughter of Colonel *Jacob Engle* (born in 1727; died on Wednesday, February 20, 1799, in his 72d year), of Germantown, who survived him, and by her had five children—*James, Mary, Ann, Washington, and Levi*. On March 15, 1776, when 37 years old, he was appointed a Captain in a battalion of musketmen in Colonel Samuel Miles' Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment, which was attached to the Flying Camp. He was, together with Colonel Miles and his regiment, captured by the British at the battle of Long Island on August 27, 1776 (*Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, p. 331), but was exchanged on December 9, 1776, and became, in 1777, a member of Captain Faries' Troop of Horse. On November 12, 1777, he was transferred to the Pennsylvania State Regiment designated the "13th Pennsylvania;" on July 1, 1778, was transferred to the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment; and, on January 17, 1781, to the Second Pennsylvania Regiment, and served to June, 1783. He participated in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown. In March, 1782, he joined with Captains Schneider [*Snyder*] and [Robert] Erwin in charges before the President and Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania of certain abuses and irregularities at the last general election for the County." On January 15, 1785, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Philadelphia County, Germantown and Roxborough townships, which office he resigned on April 3, 1786. In October, 1786, he ran for Representative of the County in the Assembly. In June, 1787, he offered for sale his "valuable plantation situate in Bristol township, Philadelphia County, near the Old York Road, about seven miles from the city," containing 90 acres of land. He resigned as Major of the Second Battalion of Philadelphia County Militia in April, 1787, to which office he had been elected in April, 1786. He was a member of

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the Pennsylvania Society of the Cincinnati, as was also his son, *James*, and his grandson, *Levi*.

²³ *John Humphreys* [*Humphrey*], on August 2, 1779, was an Ensign in Lee's Battalion of Light Dragoons; on August 25, 1779, was transferred to the Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment; and on July 17, 1781, to the Second Pennsylvania Regiment. In 1777, he became a member of Captain Faries' Troop of Horse, and, in 1781, acted as Quartermaster of the Troop. On April 2, 1782, he became a Second Lieutenant in the Fourth Regiment of Continental Artillery, serving until June 17, 1783. In 1814, he is recorded as a merchant at No. 14 North Seventh Street.

²⁴ *Jacob Markley*, on May 6, 1777, was commissioned Major in the First Battalion, Philadelphia County Associators. He died on October 9, 1821, leaving an estate valued at \$19,000. Letters of administration were granted to *John Markley*, *Philip Markley*, and *Jacob Markley, Jr.* His son's wife *Rachel* (born in 1794), died on April 19, 1850, leaving her husband and two sons, *Simon S. Markley* and *Jacob Markley, Jr.* She was buried at New Villa, Warrington township, Bucks County, Pa. Her son, *Jacob Markley, Jr.*, was married on June 27, 1850, to *Hannah S. Miller*, of Warrington, Bucks County.

²⁵ *Jacob Wollery* [*Woolery*] was related to *Weckerly Woolery*, who, in 1778, lived in Springfield, Philadelphia County.

²⁶ *Josiah Pawling* was the son of *Henry Pawling*, who, in 1770, was nominated for the Pennsylvania Assembly, and, in 1776, was Captain in the Flying Camp. His brother, *Henry Pawling, Jr.*, after the Revolution was very influential in building up Norristown, Pa. On September 9, 1777, *Josiah Pawling* married *Ann Sturgess*. On August 7, 1780, he is still recorded as a member of the Troop of Horse and attached to the Third Battalion County Militia. In 1784, he was a private in the Second Company, Second Philadelphia Regiment, Colonel James Reed; and, in 1785, in the Third Company, First Philadelphia Regiment, Colonel John Shee.

²⁷ *Nathaniel Vansandt*, of Bensalem, Philadelphia County, was married to *Hannah Vansandt* on August 27, 1768. During the Revolution he served, from August 19, 1775, as First Lieutenant in the First Battalion of Bucks County Associators; and for a time as Captain in Colonel Miles' Sixth Pennsylvania Regiment, and was with the Regiment when it was captured at the battle of Long Island, November 16, 1776. He was exchanged on November 20, 1778. He was related to *James Vansandt*, who, on October 12, 1784, was elected Representative for the County.

²⁸ *Jacob Funk* lived in the Northern Liberties on Germantown Road. In October, 1775, he was an Ensign in Wayne's Fourth Pennsylvania Battalion. He was recommissioned on January 8, 1776; and, on January 10, 1777, was made a Cornet in the Fourth Continental Dragoons. Later that year he was a member of Captain Faries' Troop of Horse. In 1779, he was an innkeeper in Second Street. His son, *James Funk, Sr.*, was born in 1792, and died on May 2, 1839, at his home in German-

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town Road, west side, the first house above Laurel Street, aged 47 years. He had a son, *James Funk, Jr.*, and another son, *John C. Funk*, who died in infancy on August 16, 1839.

²⁹ *Benjamin Wotton* was doubtless a descendant of *Faith Wotten*, who arrived in Pennsylvania on December 16, 1685, in the ship "Unicorn," from Bristol, England, Thomas Cooper, Master.

³⁰ *Josiah Matlack* was the son of *Josiah Matlack*, of Lower Dublin township, who, in 1777, was a private and then an Ensign in the Third Company, Second Battalion Philadelphia Associators; in 1778, was a merchant in Fourth Street near Spruce; took the oath of allegiance to the State on July 9, 1778; in October, 1778, as a Grand Juror, signed a petition for clemency for John Roberts and Abraham Carlisle under sentence of death for high treason; and died in 1791, his will being made on May 2, 1788. His son *Josiah Matlack*, took the oath of allegiance to the State on January 6, 1779, in 1784, was a private in the Fourth Company, Sixth Battalion, Colonel Joseph Dean; in 1787, was a private in the Third Company, First Philadelphia Battalion, Colonel Gurney; in 1793 was executor for the estate of Reuben Haines; and, in 1794, is recorded as a "gentleman" living at No. 51 Spruce Street. The same year, 1794 he is recorded as a private in the First Company, Third Philadelphia Regiment, Colonel McLean. He also owned a large plantation in Lower Dublin township which had been bequeathed to him by his father. He had a sister, *Rachel*, and another sister, *Martha*, who was the wife of *Jonathan Enoch*. On May 31, 1800, *Ann Matlack*, daughter of *Josiah Matlack, Jr.*, was married to *William Smith*, merchant, of Philadelphia.

³¹ *David Davis*, yeoman, of Roxborough township, Philadelphia County, was the son of *Enoch Davis*, and nephew of *David Davis*, of Merion, Philadelphia County, who died on July 20, 1768. In 1777, *David Davis* was commissioned First Lieutenant in Colonel William Coats' County Battalion. In 1778, he lived in New Britain township, Bucks County, Pa. In 1779, he signed a petition to the Supreme Executive Council for relief for the county from famine. In July, 1780, he was sent to Reading, Pa., to secure cattle and sheep for the troops. He was a member of the Troop of Light Horse of Philadelphia County for a number of years, and, in October, 1781, was for a time Acting Quartermaster of the Troop in the place of John Humphreys, while at Newtown, Pa. His brothers were:—*Israel* (born in 1758; died in Chester County, Pa., August 10, 1832, aged 73 years); *Anthony*; *Enoch*; and *Mordecai*. He died on December 25, 1822, leaving a wife, *Elizabeth*, and the following children:—*Matthew*; *James*; *Elizabeth*; *Deborah*; *George*; *William*; *Sarah*; and *Eleanor*. A son, *Benjamin*, and a daughter, *Ann Beard*, predeceased him.

³² *Isaac Keen*, who resided in Tacony, was the son of *Matthias Keen* (born December 21, 1721; died July 28, 1797) and *Margaret Thomas* (born February 20, 1723; died August 7, 1801), and was born on September 19, 1753. He was greatly favored by his father, who gave him a large fortune during his lifetime and bequeathed him his estate

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in Oxford township. He married *Sarah* (born January 11, 1756; died September 8, 1831), daughter of *John Knowles* (who was Lieutenant of the "Independent Company of Foot," in 1756, and who, in the Revolutionary War, was made prisoner by the British, in 1778, and taken to New York, but soon afterwards was exchanged for a loyalist of Horsham township; he was commissioned a Justice of Peace for Philadelphia County on June 6, 1777, and continued to hold that office until his resignation on February 16, 1786). His mother was *Mary Wilkinson*. Isaac Keen, in April, 1786, was elected Cornet of the Troop. He died in Oxford township, February 20, 1808, aged 55 years, and was buried in Pennypack Baptist Churchyard. He had seven children.—Gregory B. Keen, "The Descendants of Jöran Kyn, the Founder of Upland."

⁸³ *Edward Duffield* was the brother of *Abraham* and son of *Jacob Duffield* (born in 1724; died October 16, 1774) and *Hannah Leech* (born July 29, 1723; died October 8, 1793). He was born May 28, 1759, and died July 16, 1824, when 65 years old. In 1777, he was an Ensign in the Second Company of the City (First) Battalion, Colonel William Bradford. He was a bachelor, and lived with his brother in Frankford. He was Auditor on the American Republican ticket for the County of Philadelphia in 1809, but was not elected. He was a "gentleman of the old school." Upon his death, the old homestead was bought by *John Murray*.

⁸⁴ *Thomas Chappel*, yeoman, of Moreland township, Philadelphia County, was the son of *John Chappel* (died May 16, 1775) and his second wife, *Martha Duffell* [*Duffield*], of Oxford township, who were married on September 29, 1757, (*John's* first wife, *Mary*, died December 31, 1753); and brother of *Mary* (married *Charles Meredith*), *Elizabeth* (married *James Miller*), and *Esther Chappel*. His father, *John Chappel*, kept the "*Black Bull Tavern*," in Market Street, some time prior to the Revolution. *Thomas Chappel* was born in February, 1759. In September, 1778, he was, with his brother *William*, a private in Captain Jacob Stake's Company of the Tenth Pennsylvania Regiment, and was subsequently detached to the light corps. He took the oath of allegiance to the State on June 22, 1779. On July 3, 1792, he was elected Captain of the Third Company, Second Philadelphia County Battalion, Colonel Isaac Worrell; and on July 28, 1794, Captain of the Second Company, Fifth County Regiment. He served in the Whiskey Insurrection. He died on August 1, 1848, aged 89 years. His wife was *Mary Chappel*, and his children were *Charles*; *George*; *William*; *John*; *Thomas*; *Catherine* (married a Mr. Wiser); *Hester* (married *George Knowles*); and *Eliza* (married *Joseph Carson*).

⁸⁵ *George Benner*, brickmaker, was a relative of *George Benner* of the Troop. In December, 1776, he was a member of Captain John Williams' Company of the First Battalion of Philadelphia Associators, Colonel Jacob Morgan. In 1779, he owned a plantation in Bristol township, Philadelphia County, and a brickyard on Hickory Lane, in the Northern Liberties. He died in 1785 at his dwelling near Vine Street, between Second and Third Streets. His executors were *Jacob Benner* and *Jacob*

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Benner, Jr. *George Benner*, of the Troop, recorded in 1794 as a carter at No. 483 North Second Street, in the Northern Liberties, was the son of *George Benner* (died May 2, 1809, far advanced in years), of Moreland township, Philadelphia County, and *Mary*, his wife. His brothers were:—*Jacob* (who had a son *Jacob*); *Peter* (who had a son *George*); *John*; and *Henry*; and his sisters were *Elizabeth* (wife of *Sereck Fox*—their daughter, *Maria Fox*, married Captain *John Bavington*, of the Second City Troop); and *Mary Benner*. He died on July 20, 1816, leaving a wife, *Mary*; three sons—*George*; *John*; and *Jacob*; and three daughters—*Ann*; *Hannah*; and *Mary*. On January 5, 1843, *Janette*, daughter of the eldest son, *George*, was married to *Quintin Campbell, Jr.*, of Philadelphia County.

³⁶ *John Bruner* was the son of *David Bruner*, of Montgomery, Philadelphia County, and grandson of *John Bruner*, yeoman, who died May 22, 1773, far advanced in years.

³⁷ *Samuel Boucher [Butcher]* was the son of *George Dietrich Bucher*, who, in 1778, lived in New Hanover township, Philadelphia County. That year, *Samuel Boucher*, assistant weighmaster, lived in Moreland Manor, Philadelphia County. They were descendants of *John Boutcher*, who died in Moreland township, in 1707, leaving two sons, *John* and *Samuel*, and several daughters, one of whom, *Sarah*, married *Henry*, son of *Francis Daniel Pastorius*, in 1720. *Samuel Boucher*, of the Northern Liberties, took the oath of allegiance to the State on July 5, 1777; was a member of Captain Faries' Troop of Horse that year; is recorded as being with the Troop at Newtown in October, 1781; and continued with that body until 1782 at least. In the records of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, on October 4, 1781, there is an "order in favor of Mr. Samuel Boutcher for 64 pounds 10 shillings, State money emitted by Act of Assembly of the 7th of April, 1781, amount of his account for the hire of waggons called into service from the County of Philadelphia in August, 1780, agreeably to requisitions of Congress." In 1788, *John* and *Samuel Boutcher* [brothers], offered for sale their "plantation in Moorland, chiefly in Philadelphia County, 100 acres or upwards." On May 28, 1788, *Samuel Butcher* married *Mary Highbee*. He died on May 5, 1797, letters of administration being granted to *Jesse Butcher*.

³⁸ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, April 12, 1780, p. 1, c. 2.

³⁹ *Pennsylvania Packet*, July 8, 1777.

⁴⁰ *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854; vol. viii, p. 229.

⁴¹ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 31, 1780, p. 1, c. 1. Also *Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, p. 410.

⁴² *Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 31, 1780.

⁴³ *Pennsylvania Archives*, Sixth Series, vol. i, pp. 971, 979 and 985; also, Second Series, vol. xiii, p. 759.

⁴⁴ *John Dover*, a descendant of *Richard Dover* (died April 6, 1732), who was the son of *Thomas Dover*, was the son of *William Dover* (died before 1778), who left an estate in Oxford township, Frank-

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ford. *John Dover* was born in 1754. He was appointed an Ensign in Wayne's Fourth Battalion in October, 1775; on January 8, 1776, became Ensign in the Third Pennsylvania Battalion; and on January 3, 1777, became First Lieutenant in the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment. In 1780, he became First Lieutenant in Captain Faries' Troop of Horse. He subsequently attained the rank of Colonel in the Philadelphia Militia. In 1785, he kept the old Rising Sun Tavern, on the Germantown Road, four miles from Philadelphia. In 1799-1800, he was proprietor of a tavern at Frankford (*American Daily Advertiser*, February 11, 1800), in the village of Aramingo, on "the King's Highway" [Frankford Avenue], just south of the Frankford Creek. He was a member of the Committee of Arrangements appointed January 8, 1801, to commemorate March 4, 1801, as a day of public festivity in celebration of the success of Democratic principles (*Scharf and Westcott*, vol i, p. 507). He was married first, on September 3, 1782, to *Mary Nice*; secondly, on March 4, 1797, to *Sarah Cooper*. Subsequently, he married *Letitia Stewart*, of the Northern Liberties. He died at his home near Frankford on Sunday, March 18, 1821, in his 67th year, his will being probated on April 8th of that year. He was interred in the Presbyterian burying-ground at Aramingo. Letters of administration were granted to Alexander Martin, and Nathan Harper and Stacey Gillingham, tanner, of Frankford, were surety for the executors. His son, *Joseph Dover*, a silver plater, was born in 1794, and died in Cohocksink village on October 28, 1838, aged 44 years. His daughter, *Sarah*, who was married on September 20, 1807, to *Thomas Collings*, died at Summerville, New Jersey, on September 9, 1839; and another daughter, *Anne*, married *Moses Thomas* on October 10, 1811. John Dover's brother, *Frederick Dover*, coachmaker, of the Northern Liberties, died on March 10, 1806, leaving a wife, *Elizabeth*. Another brother, *Andrew Dover*, of Germantown, was born in 1751; and, in October, 1775, was Second Lieutenant in Colonel Wayne's Fourth Battalion. He was commissioned second Lieutenant in Captain John Miller's Company of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, Colonel Magaw, on January 8, 1776; on March 4, 1776, was promoted to First Lieutenant; was taken prisoner at Fort Washington on November 16, 1776; was reelected First Lieutenant on March 4, 1777; and promoted to Captain on June 1, 1778; and was exchanged on October 25, 1780. In 1794, he lived in Oxford Township, upper end of Frankford, opposite the "Seven Stars." He died near Frankford on February 27, 1832, in his 81st year, letters of administration being granted to *William Dover*. His daughter, *Charlotte Cecilia*, was married on November 13, 1831, to *Dr. Dempsey Murray Veale*. A *Levi Dover* was a private in Captain *T. W. Duffield's* company of *Frankford Artillery* at Camp Dupont in 1814.

^a *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854; vol. ix, p. 250.

^a The camp at Trenton was formed July 28, 1780, and abandoned on September 2, when the projected attack upon New York was given up. It was commanded in person by President Reed (*Scharf and Westcott*,

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vol. i, p. 411). The militia returned to Philadelphia on September 3, "Extract from the *Diary of Jacob Hiltzheimer* of Philadelphia, 1765-1798." Edited by John W. Jordan, 1893, Philadelphia. Press of Wm. F. Fell & Co.

⁴⁷ *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854; vol. ix, p. 230.

⁴⁸ *Ibid*, vol. ix, p. 272.

⁴⁹ *William Dean* was born in 1741, and died in Montgomery County, Pa., on Saturday morning, September 12, 1807, in his 67th year. He was commissioned Colonel of the Fourth Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia on May 6, 1777.

⁵⁰ *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854; vol. ix, p. 358.

⁵¹ *Colonial Records of Pa.*, vol. xiii, p. 37.

⁵² From the Wm. Henry Manuscripts collected by John Jordan, Jr.

⁵³ A *joe* was a Portuguese and Brazilian gold coin of the period worth \$8.62. In 1778, this coin was selling at £22, 10s. Continental currency. A *half Joe* or *Johannis* was a gold coin of Portugal then current in commercial use.

⁵⁴ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, November 15, 1780, p. 3, col. 3.

⁵⁵ The *Coats* family of Philadelphia is descended from the four brothers—*William* (died in 1749, leaving a widow, *Rachel*), *Thomas*, *George* and *John*—who came to this country early in the eighteenth century. There was a *William Coats, Jr.*, a brickmaker, who also died on April 1, 1749, leaving a widow, *Mary*, a minor son, *William*, and a daughter, *Mary*. The father of *William Coats*, of this history, was *Major William Coats*, an extensive landowner in the township of the Northern Liberties, County of Philadelphia, where he was born in 1721. He received his education in the Friends' School. In 1748, he was Second Lieutenant in the Third Company of the Associators' Regiment of Philadelphia County. On May 1, 1756, he became an original member and Secretary of the *Northern Liberty Fire Company*. He subsequently became a Major in the Provincial Militia. He must have been twice married, taking his second wife, *Martha Davis* (born February 11, 1738; died July 17, 1795), on October 9, 1764. In 1774, he was a member of the Committee of Correspondence of Philadelphia; and, on January 23, 1775, was a delegate to the Provincial Conference. In 1775, he served on the Committee of Inspection for the Northern Liberties. On June 28, 1775, he was a delegate to the conference at Carpenter's Hall. [The *Carpenter's Company* of Philadelphia was organized in 1724, and for many years exerted a wide influence upon contemporaneous happenings. The famous *Carpenter's Hall*, where the First Continental Congress held its sessions, was built in 1771, upon land fronting on Chestnut Street below Fourth Street, which was purchased in 1768. For several years it was occupied as the first *Bank of the United States*, and later—in August, 1798—by the *Pennsylvania Bank*.] On July 15, 1776, he was a member of the convention in Carpenters' Hall. He

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saw active service in the Revolution, and participated in the battle of Princeton. In 1777, he became a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly. On February 4, 1778, he was captured by the British and confined in the jail in Philadelphia until exchanged in 1779. This year he was reelected to the Pennsylvania Assembly, but died in Philadelphia on January 24, 1780.

His son, *Colonel William Coats*, was born in Philadelphia sometime about 1750. Not much is known of his early life save that he married *Margaret*, daughter of *Thomas Norris*, of Princeton, New Jersey. On June 30, 1775, he was commissioned Second Major of the First Battalion of Associators of Philadelphia, and became First Major in 1776. On December 4, 1776, he was commissioned Lieut.-Colonel of the First Battalion of the City Militia; and from March 12, 1777, to 1785, he served as Lieutenant of Philadelphia County, with Colonel William Dean, Colonel George Smith and others as Sub-Lieutenant. On September 10, 1778, William Coats, saddler, took the oath of allegiance to the State. In October, 1778, he signed a petition for clemency for John Roberts and Abraham Carlisle, under sentence of death for high treason. In October, 1779, he was Colonel of the Third Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia. On October 12, 1784, he was elected a Representative in the Assembly for Philadelphia County; and, on August 20, 1788, he was elected a magistrate, or Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, for the Northern Liberties, in place of William Masters, deceased. On September 1, 1791, he was commissioned again as Justice of the Peace in the Northern Liberties. On July 4, 1793 he was elected first Vice-President of the *Democratic Society of Pennsylvania* (The first Democratic Society in the United States). From 1787 to 1794, he served as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Seventh Battalion of Militia of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia. On September 12, 1794, he was commissioned Lieut.-Colonel of the First Philadelphia County Regiment, and immediately transferred to the command of the Fourth County Regiment; and from 1799 to 1802, he was Lieut.-Colonel of the 88th Regiment of Pennsylvania Militia. On March 4, 1801, he was a member of the Committee of Arrangements to celebrate Democratic success. He was also a member of the Tammany Society. He died in his mansion on Front Street, Northern Liberties, on April 28, 1802, and was accorded a military funeral. His daughter, *Elizabeth*, was married, on April 20, 1780, to *Anthony Butler*, merchant. They were the grand-parents of General *George Gordon Meade*. Coates Street [now Fairmount Avenue] was named for the Coats family.

⁵⁶ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, November 29, 1780, p. 3, col. 3.

⁵⁷ *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854, vol. ix, p. 230.

⁵⁸ *Pennsylvania Packet*, April 28, 1781.

⁵⁹ *Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, p. 415.

⁶⁰ *Pennsylvania Archives*, Sixth Series, vol. i, pp. 973 *et seq.*

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⁶¹ *Independence Hall*, Chestnut Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets, south side, was built during the years 1729-34, and, in October, 1735, was first used as a "State House." From 1775 to 1800, it was used by the Colonial Congress, and by the State Legislature until 1804. The Declaration of Independence was issued from the Hall on July 4, 1776, and the Constitution of the United States was adopted there in 1787. The old "Liberty Bell" closely identified with the birth of the Government, was taken from the tower of Independence Hall to Allentown, Pa., in 1778, to prevent its falling into the hands of the British. It was brought back in 1782, and for fifty years, until it cracked, it celebrated every National anniversary. From 1790 to 1800, the State House served as the Capitol of the Nation. In the building at the corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets, then known as "Congress Hall," the first senate and first House of Representatives of the United States met, and here Washington was inaugurated President on March 4, 1793, and John Adams in 1797. This building has also been used for United States and District Courts, and almost all kinds of legal tribunals have at different times been accommodated within its walls. In 1854, when the city proper was consolidated with all the outlying towns and districts in Philadelphia County, the municipal government determined upon using the State House itself, and gave notice to the United States Courts to remove from the second story. From that time until March, 1895, City Councils occupied the second floor—the East chamber over Independence Hall by Select Council and the West Chamber by Common Council. Since 1895, the old State House has been restored to its original condition, and is now occupied by the "Daughters of the Revolution." The site of Congress Hall was occupied, before the Revolution, by a wooden shelter for visiting Indians.

⁶² *Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, p. 416.

⁶³ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, April 24, 1782, p. 1, c. 1.

⁶⁴ *Robert Correy* was a Philadelphia merchant and shipping-agent, having his store, in 1782, in Third Street three doors from Market Street, and in 1789, in Water Street near Walnut. His pasture was in the District of Moyamensing. On May 6, 1777, he was commissioned Colonel of the *Fifth Battalion*, Philadelphia County Militia. He took the oath of allegiance to the State on October 6, 1778. On May 12, 1780, he was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Battalion of the County Associators; in 1783, he was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth Battalion of Montgomery County; and, in April, 1786, Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Battalion of Montgomery County.

⁶⁵ *Archibald Thompson*, grandson of *Archibald Thompson* (who, on March 23, 1742, purchased 126½ acres of land from the Samuel Norris Estate), was a member of the famous Committee of Correspondence for Philadelphia City and County in 1775. On July 13, 1776, he was appointed Captain in the Flying Camp; on March 12, 1777, he was appointed a Sub-Lieutenant of Philadelphia County; on May 6, 1777, was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fifth Battalion of Militia

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for Philadelphia County [the members of this Battalion coming from White Marsh, Plymouth, Whitpain, Norrington, Worcester and New Providence]. On October 21, 1777, and again on May 6, 1778, he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Philadelphia County to carry into effect the Confiscation Act of the Council of Safety of the Pennsylvania Assembly. He was appointed Lieutenant of Philadelphia County on February 18, 1778. In August, 1778, he was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, and was again elected a Representative for the County of Philadelphia on October 15, 1779. He died on November 1, 1779, at his home at Norriton township. He built the famous old inn, now known as the *Jeffersonville Hotel* (which is located at the foot of Egypt Road and the Ridge Pike, about five miles above Norristown), in 1765, and after his death his widow, *Hannah Bartholomew Thompson*, to whom he was married on June 4, 1766, continued the business and made the inn famous. It was known as the "*Sign of Jefferson*" in 1803, and the village became known as Jeffersonville. Colonel Thompson's son, *Robert*, was born in 1767. Another son, *Archibald*, was married, on October 15, 1781, to *Elizabeth Wilson*. In 1794, he was a private in the Second Company, Fourth Regiment Philadelphia Militia, Colonel Andrew Guyer, and served in the Whiskey Insurrection.

⁶⁶ The region where Norristown, Montgomery County, is now situated.

⁶⁷ *Pennsylvania Gazette*, November 6, 1782. p. 2, col. 3.

⁶⁸ *Chevalier de la Luzerne* succeeded M. Gérard as Minister from France to the United States. He landed at Boston, August 2, 1779, and served for four years.

⁶⁹ *Scharf and Westcott*, vol. i, p. 420.

⁷⁰ *Pennsylvania Packet*, May 31, 1783.

⁷¹ *Benjamin McVey* [*McVeagh* or *McVaugh*], son of *James McVaugh* and *Rebecca Worrell* (married November 1, 1744), was born in 1748. He was married, in Christ Church, on December 24, 1772, to *Pavnel Humphreyville*. In May, 1777, he was Colonel of the Third County Battalion; on November 24, 1777, he was Colonel of the First Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia; in 1780, he commanded the Second Battalion; and, again in 1784-86, he was Colonel of the First County Battalion. He took the oath of allegiance to the State on April 6, 1779. In 1782, he was a candidate for the office of Sheriff of the County. He was the proprietor of a large three-storied stone tavern in Frankford, at the time of his death. He died there on Friday evening, September 8, 1786, in his 39th year, and was interred in the Friends' burying ground in Frankford.

⁷² *Pennsylvania Gazette*, October 1, 1783.

⁷³ *Matthew Holgate* was descended from *Matthew Holdgate*, who, with his daughter *Mary*, came to Philadelphia on August 31, 1685. In 1776, he was a Second Lieutenant in the Flying Camp; and, in November, 1778, was Captain of a Company in the Second Battalion of Philadelphia County Associators. He took the oath of allegiance to the

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State on March 27, 1779; and was commissioned Lieut.-Colonel of the Seventh County [or Germantown] Battalion on July 31, 1779. He was succeeded by Lieut.-Colonel *Thomas Durgan* on April 23, 1786; at that time he became Lieut.-Colonel of the Second Battalion of Montgomery County, Pa. On May 6, 1786, he became one of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for the same county. He died in Germantown on March 1 to 8, 1788

⁷⁴ *Pennsylvania Packet*, April 17, 1784.

⁷⁵ *Ibid*, September 24, 1784.

⁷⁶ *Pennsylvania Archives*. Edited by Samuel Hazard, 1854; vol. x, p. 218.

(To be continued.)